

The rules were suspended to allow him to submit the following resolutions:

Resolutions requesting our Representatives in Congress to use their exertions to secure the passage of laws extending the period of residence requisite to entitle foreigners to the rights of citizenship, and excluding foreign paupers and criminals from our shores.

Whereas, the recent rapid increase of European emigrants to this country is, under existing laws, adding annually to our voting population thousands who cannot be presumed, upon a five years residence, to have acquired sufficient knowledge of our laws and governmental policy, to be qualified to exercise with proper intelligence and discretion, the sacred and important right of suffrage; and

Whereas, it is evident that certain European States have adopted the policy of ridding themselves of the expense and annoyance of maintaining their paupers and criminals, by transporting them to our shores; whereby, many thousands of the most degraded and vicious of Europeans are each year admitted to the inestimable privileges of American citizenship, and enabled to exercise a prejudicial influence upon the administration of our State and National Government; therefore

Resolved, By the General Assembly of Maryland, That our Senators are instructed and our representatives in Congress be, and they are hereby requested to use their best exertions to secure the passage of such laws as will make a residence of twenty one years a requisite for citizenship to emigrants hereafter arriving in the United States and exclude all paupers and persons convicted of crime from landing upon our shores; Provided, however that such laws shall not apply to persons born of American parents residing temporarily abroad, or interfere with the vested rights of any persons of foreign birth now residing in this country.

Resolved, That the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Delegates are requested to forward a copy of these resolutions to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

Which were read the first time.

The hour having arrived for taking up the special order of the day,

The House proceeded to the consideration of the bill entitled an act to establish a general system of public Education in this State:

Mr. Abbott moved to strike out all after the word "purposes"